UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

HARRY THEODORE JOSIFIDIS,

Plaintiff,

-- against --

ERIC T. SCHNEIDERMAN, ATTORNEY GENERAL; DOMINICK DIGENNARO, SPECIAL INVESTIGATOR, SHIELD NO. 1105; TRAVIS HILL, SPECIAL ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL; THOMAS BURKE, SUPERVISING SPECIAL INVESTIGATOR; DAVID RYAN, SPECIAL INVESTIGATOR; TWAN V. BOUNDS, SPECIAL ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL; SETH FARBER, SPECIAL ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL; VITO SPANO, CHIEF; ALBERT T. MAIORANO JR., SPECIAL INVESTIGATOR; NATALIE SOTNIKOVA, SPECIAL INVESTIGATOR; ARELIS RESTITUYO, SPECIAL INVESTIGATOR; JOSEPH SCALOGNA, SPECIAL INVESTIGATOR; JONATHAN ROMANO, SPECIAL AUDITOR INVESTIGATOR; FERN COHEN DEPAULO, SUPERVISING INVESTIGATOR; STEVEN SOO HOO, DEA SPECIAL AGENT; BARBARA YANOFSKY, DEA SPECIAL AGENT; JOHN DOES 1-8, PERSONS WORKING FOR OR EMPLOYED BY NEW YORK STATE,

Defendants.

Index No.: 16-CV-1944 (RRM) (RML)

DECLARATION IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO WITHDRAW AS COUNSEL

PHILIP V. AIELLO, Esq. an attorney duly admitted to practice in the State of New York and in this Court, declares, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1746, under penalty of perjury, that the following is true and correct:

I am a member of the law firm of Ateshoglou & Aiello, P.C. (hereinafter "AA"), attorneys for Plaintiff HARRY THEODORE JOSIFIDIS (hereinafter the "Plaintiff"). As such, I am familiar with the facts and circumstances stated below.

I submit this declaration in support of AA's motion to be relieved as counsel pursuant to Local Rule 1.4.

Counsel previously advised Plaintiff, as of January 1, 2017, the firm of AA has merged with the firm of McManus Adams & Apostolakos to become McManus Ateshoglou Adams Aiello & Apostolakos, PLLC.

Annexed hereto as **Exhibit "1"** is an email to Plaintiff dated February 20, 2017 confirming that due to our recent merger, it will be necessary for him to retain new counsel.

As a result of certain agreements entered into while planning the aforesaid merger, the new firm can no longer pursue Plaintiff's case.

Prior to the merger, Plaintiff was advised of the aforesaid issue, and AA attempted to assist him in obtaining new counsel. Unfortunately, to date Plaintiff has not found new representation, necessitating the present motion.

For the aforesaid reasons, AA respectfully requests that this Court grant their motion to withdraw as attorneys of record for Plaintiff and that the Court briefly stay all proceedings in the case.

Dated: New York, New York
March 7, 2017

ATESHOGLOU & AIELLO, P.C.
Attorneys for Plaintiff
11 Park Place, Suite 1715
New York, New York 10007
(212) 545-1740

By: /s/
Philip V. Aiello (PA – 2908)